

A3
Sub B4

10. (Amended) A diagnostic method as claimed in claim 6 wherein step (c) is carried out in the coexistence of the antibody (S antibody) with an antibody binding specifically with *Streptococcus mutans* (M antibody), or in addition to step (c), another step similar to step (c) is carried out by using M antibody in place of S antibody; the resulting immune complex derived from M antibody is also assayed; and the amount of this complex is also evaluated as an index to a risk of dental caries.

12. (Amended) A diagnostic method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the one or more immune complexes are assayed by an immunochromatographic technique.

ADD SUB B4
10013974-122601

13. (Amended) A diagnostic method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the test fluid is untreated saliva.